CAMBRIDGE CAMDEN SOCIETY.—THIRTY-THIRD MEETING.

Nearly fifty new members were ballotted for and admitted, principally fellows of the colleges, and about half a dozen architects whose names we recognise: Donthorn, Railton, and Richardson, of London; Cates, York; Hicks, Bristol; Shearburn, Dorking. The Rev. John Keble was received a member with acclamation, as were the Bishops of Aberdeen and Glasgow as patrons.

The report sets out that—

"A fourth summer has gone by, and the committee have again to congratulate the society on the continued increase of its numbers, and the peaceful progress of its principles and operations.

"The increasing accession of architects of reputation is a gratifying evidence of the truth of the architectural rules for which we have contended, and affords a welcome ground for the hope of ultimate uniformity in the general principles of ecclesiastical restoration.

"The growing augmentation of business and consequent occupation to the members of the committee must again, and still more than before, be pleaded in apology for delays that have occurred in the society's proceedings and publications. This remark will particularly apply to the *Ecclesiologist*, the regular publication of which is always a matter of much difficulty in the five summer months, for reasons obvious to those who are acquainted with the customs of the university, and which are not likely to lose their force or operation as the subjects embraced by that journal grow in interest and importance. Two numbers have, however, been issued in the summer, and two more are now on the eve of publication. In regard to a work involving such matters, and coming under the review of so many persons, it is hoped that an indulgent allowance will be made, not only for what may have been erroneously admitted, but also for what may have been reluctantly withheld."

It next goes into a statement of the progress made in the restoration of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, a view of which we gave in an early number; half the encaustic pavement is yet to be laid down, and many things must be deferred from want of funds (such as the erection of the oak roof to the new aisle which was determined on by the committee, the frescoes, with the chancel and parclose screens). The window, however, for the east end, committed (as stated in a former report) to Mr. Willement, will, it is hoped, through that gentleman's extraordinary exertions, be ready for the opening of the church, which was desirable as well to save the cost of a temporary glazing, as because this forms an important feature in the restoration."

Further application had been made to the committee by the Bishop of New Zealand for designs and guidance, upon which they were deliberating, and lists of new churches, and of restored churches, were read, in which the advice and assistance of the society had been solicited and given.

It was announced that the second and third numbers of *The Illustrations of Churches in Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely* had been published, and the fourth number is forthcoming. A new edition of the *Few Words to Churchwardens* has also been issued.

"The plan adopted for supplying lecterns especially, and other carved wood-work in general, by a wood-carver in Cambridge, has met with great success, as to leave little doubt of the difficulty which was felt in obtaining in the county correct designs or copies of ancient designs; and consequently of the advantage of having them manufactured on the spot under the society's superintendence. Several have been already executed and sold, and more are on hand. Arrangements have also been made for the supply of alms boxes, of various kinds and sizes, on a similar plan. Casts of poppy heads have also been prepared, and are on sale by the same maker, Mr. James Rattee, opposite the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Acknowledgment was made of the many valuable presents and drawings, in particular of a very valuable series of twenty-five coloured plates of views and details of Westminster Abbey, by E. G. Bartnell, Esq., Trin. Coll.; a series of about eighty drawings, with the working drawings full size, of the open seats at Comberton and Borrn churches, by P. H. Paley, Esq.; a very large contribution of brasses, from various sources; a copy of 'Blore's Monumental Remains,' by H. Heslop, Esq., Trin. Coll.; a series of forty drawings to a scale of carved standards, from Somersetshire, through S. N. Stokes, Esq.; the first part of the costly and beautiful series of Yorkshire Abbeys, published and presented by Mr. Sunter, of York. Above all, the costly and magnificent present of two high tombs, with effigies and canopies complete, from the Earl of Shrewsbury, has now been erected and is deposited in the society's room.

After alluding to donations made to the funds by the Chancellor of the University, and the Duchess of Gloucester, the former of 50*l*., the latter of 10*l*., and remarking on the auspicious visit of her Majesty and Prince Albert to the works of the Round Church, certain papers were read, among which one by S. N. Stokes, Esq., of Trinity College, on decorative colour, in which he shewed from authorities and examples that painting and gilding were necessary for the proper adornment of a church and its ornaments, called forth a few remarks from the Rev. H. Goodwin, of Caius College, in which he drew the distinction between painting wood or stone for the purpose of deception, and enriching costly materials by the aid of colour, without any attempt at disguise, for the sake of greater dignity and beauty.

INSTITUTION OF BUILDERS' FOREMEN.

It would occupy us at greater length than we are now able to bestow upon the subject to set forth the peculiar claims which this and similar institutions proposed to be established have upon the consideration of our readers; but confining ourselves to this alone, there are two classes or sections we would address—the masters and the foremen themselves, and with these our remarks must be necessarily limited.

To the master of an enlightened mind and honest purpose, the claims we speak of will suggest themselves with more force than we have the power of giving utterance to. Such masters will regard the body of foremen as an important link in the great chain of honourable connection between themselves and their workmen. Foremen are of necessity those who rise from the ranks of the workmen, and are supposed to carry with them all the best qualities of head and of heart which characterize the class from whence they spring; they are not chosen on account of an obsequious and supple demeanour towards their superiors, or for that worst of all qualities, contempt and suspicion of the body to which they belong, but on such grounds as, if the vote were left to the shop itself, would ensure their election; men who distinguish themselves by their integrity, by honourable dealing, by pride of class, best evinced in the active exercise of the practical virtues of good fellowship, generous sympathies, and the faithful discharge of their trust; men of good talent, well cultivated, and with honest hearts. Their appointments are not bribes, but distinctions and rewards.

It will not do to answer us with exceptions to the rule we have sketched out, nor with the reply that the policies and practice of trade do not admit of working up to this high standard. We answer, first, that it is a libel upon trade to speak so ill of it; better it should fall than not justify our description; and, secondly, that we know the practice of the best-regulated establishments will, and do justify it, and that it is our purpose to elevate all to the same standard by every means in our power, in which we shall be most effectually assisted, in fact, carried forward to the accomplishment, by the co-operation of those we now address.

We call upon the masters, therefore, recognising, as we are sure they will do, the truth of the principle we have laid down, to mark their sense of the value of the independent and honest foreman, by giving their sanction to an institution which, like this, promises to provide an honourable retreat for the victim of misfortune. It is not—and we are warranted in saying it, from the inquiries we have made, and the perusal of a copy of the rules—it is not in the slightest degree intended to interfere in any matters that concern the master builder, but purely and solely with the motives propounded. If it had been otherwise, we would have withheld our hand in its favour.

We know of masters, whom we should offend by the ostentatious publication of their names, who have pensioned and provided for their faithful servants upon their superannuation through age and accident, and who, if they were sure of the proper drift of this Institution, would, in future cases at least, annex the reward to the foundation of a permanent charity. What so easy? Let the Foremen's Institution provide the funds for the support. Let the masters lay down those for the building. Begin one lodge at a time. The body is not so numerous, nor their habits so improvident, as to render likely the call for more than half a dozen houses; but what a consolation, what a stimulus to good conduct and virtue, would be the knowledge to each man, that he was the member of a body whose care, under Providence, would extend to him and his family in the event of any calamitous dispensation.

There are foremen, too, who in right of their worthiness may rise to the rank of masters in their day. Those who may be of this institution, or who would have been had it existed in their time, will remember it in the prosperity with which heaven may bless, or has already blessed them, and will assign such portion of its good things for their less fortunate brothers, as to properly mark their gratitude to the Author of all good, and their right fraternal feeling.

We believe the time never was so pressing for the cultivation of those virtues out of which institutions, such as this we advocate, usually arise. We shall be most happy to be the medium of giving effect to any promotion of the object which our friends may honour us with on either side.

CHURCHES AND MEETING-HOUSES.

We have pleasure in extracting the following letter from a provincial paper, to shew the active feeling that is beginning to be evinced in favour of architecture:—

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE NOTTINGHAM JOURNAL.

"Sir,—With your permission, I will make a few remarks in your excellent journal on the new churches in this neighbourhood, with a view to promote attention to their architectural and other arrangements. Where I am in error, perhaps some one more competent will correct me; where I find fault justly, perhaps cause for this may be prevented in future erections.

"The new churches already completed are—Sneinton, by Rickman and Hussey, of Birmingham; Trinity (Nottingham), by Stevens, of Derby; Lenton, by the same; and Carrington, by Mr. Surplice, of Nottingham. Those now building are—Beeston, and Leen Side (Nottingham), both by Scott and Moffatt, of London; and Ison Green, by Stevens. Those proposed to be built are—Bulwell, by Stevens; and New Radford, by the same (?)

"If we were to add the new meeting-houses for dissenters, we should have the Wesley meeting-house for the Methodists, in Broad-street; and that of St. Barnabas for the Romanists, on the Derby road,—these being, as far as I know, the only new meeting-houses building, or lately built, in this town or neighbourhood.

"Of all the new churches yet completed, I have frequently heard it remarked, that they are all, in one point or other, evident failures as works of art. Thus, *e. g.*, Sneinton Church is over-done with its tower; Trinity is spoiled by its wide, flat roof; Lenton is distorted by its high, narrow clerestory, stuck upon its disproportionate side aisles; and Carrington is much over-whelmed, as well as disfigured by its ugly bell gable. Whether those in progress will prove equally failures will be seen in due time, before which it were hazardous even to make a guess either for or against them.

"Still it must be confessed that there are many beauties, as well as infinite real utility, in these new churches, to counterbalance the acknowledged faults committed between the architects and the building committees concerned in each case. I say between them, because I am convinced that the *architects* are not alone to blame for the faults of their productions. In the case of Trinity, for instance, I have heard said that Mr. Stevens first sent in a design with a clerestory and high-pitched roof, and that the committee reduced his plans to the present inconsistent elevation. Again, at Lenton, it is not impossible that the prejudice in favour of building the tower at the west

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